

## **2023 Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) Environmental Stewardship Award**

The winner of the 2023 EAC Environmental Stewardship Award is the Master Gardener LMT Native Plant Committee. The vote at the 12-14-23 EAC Mtg. was unanimous and reflected the hard work and dedication of this committee.

The committee was formed and took over maintenance and planting duties of the Native Plant Demo Garden in the early part of 2022. This high visibility garden is located on the Edgewood Rd. side of the Admin. Bldg. Since the group has assumed responsibility this industrious group of plant enthusiasts has done extensive weeding in the garden and has added many new native plants that reflect the importance that LMT attaches to the environmental benefits of native vegetation (LMT's innovative Native Plant Ord. was adopted in early 2007). The committee has also done extensive mulching and created pathways thru the garden that allow its beauty to be more easily observed.

The future goals of the committee are exactly in line with the EAC policy re: this wonderful township asset. They are as follows:

1. Educate the LMT community about the value of native plants to pollinators and birds.
2. Suppress undesirable weeds and add plants as needed so that this public space continues to become a visual delight for Twp. Residents.
3. Encourage our neighbors to incorporate native plants in their home gardens and other public areas.

It is always a great pleasure to give this award to LMT residents who, with their time and expertise, have enhanced the quality of life in LMT. Simply put - they make our community shine.

Jim Bray for the LMT EAC

12-15-23